# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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VOL. 4. NO. 18. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUG. 1, 1914. WHOLE NO. 174


**INSIST ON**

**Knowing where your Senators in Congress stand on Labor's amendment to the anti-trust laws. You have a right to know.**

**HELP THE MINERS.**

**Local unions are urged to give generous moral aid to the striking coal miners of Colorado.**

## MINNESOTA WORKERS MEET

Duluth, Aug. 1.—Nearly 300 delegates attended the thirty-second convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, which convened in this city. One of the first resolutions adopted instructed the secretary to send telegrams to Senators Nelson and Clapp, urging them to work and vote for the labor provisions in the Clayton anti-trust bill just as they were passed by the House. The same action was taken on the Immigrant Immigration bill, now pending in the Senate. C. McGrath, secretary-treasurer of the state branch during the past eighteen years, read his last report, as he retires from office having been appointed postmaster of this city. Mr. McGrath made a vigorous defense of trade unions as compared with other organizations claiming to represent the working classes, and justified freedom from the speculative, eccentric and untried proposals of revolutionary enthusiasts. He commended the conservatism and prudence of the American Federation of Labor in this respect, declaring that its refusal to "adopt and put in operation the contentions of every individual or faction does not indicate that it is not keenly alive to the best interests of the men and women of labor. It is rather the most conspicuous responsibility in protecting the interests of the workers. That responsibility demands such methods as are equal to the task of conserving and promoting the influence and usefulness of the labor movement. Sudden changes in methods are not conducive to the orderly progress of great movements. Only thorough and action cannot be accomplished in a tribe by promulgating pronunciamentos or declarations. If new ways are meritorious and sound adoption of them will come as the natural result of events and of logical sentiments."

The retiring secretary-treasurer was presented a gold watch charm as a parting tribute for his long services in the movement. The convention professed its allegiance to the American Federation of Labor principles and President Samuel Gompers, declaring that "this State Federation of Labor proclaims its pride in being connected with a parent system of such robust vigor, immeasurable usefulness and glorious history, and President Hall was unanimously re-elected and George Lunt, of St. Paul, was chosen for the office of secretary-treasurer. Winona was selected as the next convention city.

### ASKS QUESTIONS.

Hazleton, Pa., Aug. 1.—Striking street car men have issued a statement in answer to the public declaration of the president of the Lehigh Traction Company, who has declared that this concern is not fighting trade unions. The strikers ask:

"If the Lehigh Traction Co. is not fighting unions, why did they refuse for these many years to meet and confer with the employers? If the Lehigh Traction Co. is not fighting unions, why did they refuse to meet the International officials of the union with the committee? If they are not fighting unions why do they ask men to sign agreements which state that they discriminate against union officers, committees and the pickets? If they don't fight unions, why? why? do they fight the principles of unionism? Answer that if you can."

The strike has been on for several months because of the company's discrimination against the union. Within three weeks ago, Philadelphia bond holders, alarmed at the loss of dividends, because of the strike, appointed a committee to investigate same.

### ROWE IS RE-ELECTED.

Toledo, Ohio, Aug. 1.—President Rowe was unanimously re-elected head of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union at the Rochester, Pa., annual convention. Added to this was an increase in salary, a two months' leave of absence and the appointment as one of the union's representatives to the A. F. of L. convention at Philadelphia. W. J. Croke was also elected vice president, W. P. Clarke, secretary, and Charles Shipman, of Philadelphia, assistant secretary. Joseph Gillooly, of Grafton, W. Va., was chosen temporary secretary during the recovery from sickness of W. J. Croke.

Arthur Elbert, of Alexander, Ind., was chosen treasurer and Gilbert Gibson, general organizer. Other organizers elected were Robert Hudson, of Toledo; James O'Malley, of Fostoria, and Edward Zimmer, of Fairmont, W. Va.

William H. Clarke was selected as representative of the organization to the triennial convention of the International Glassworkers' Congress at Vienna, Austria, on August 23.

### RUINED BY FACTORY LABOR.

St. Paul, Aug. 1.—"Making human junk," is what Prof. Ellwood P. Cubberley for the people of the United States, according to placards in a child labor exhibit held in this city. The exhibit was shown of the happy, light-hearted, clean, bright-eyed children before they entered some of the local industries.

In comparison visitors may see pictures of these same children looking pale and thin as they are after a few years of service. From the pictures it is easy to see that they are "human junk."

Another illuminating sentence in the graphic exhibit is that "three times as many children as grown people are injured in the industries. Their employment is due to ignorance, greed and necessity of both the individual and the parent. Big factories actually advertise for 'small girls and boys.' This is especially true in the Southern States and in the mining districts."

### HOLD "KANGAROO" COURT.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 1.—Delegates to the district convention of the United Mine Workers of America in session in this city sought amusement from the tedium of routine business by holding a "kangaroo" court, conducted in true West Virginia style. Citizens of both high and low degree were brought before the bar of justice, even Mayor Gill, Seattle's executive, feeling the majesty of the law.

The convention considered much important business, however, and from the report of President Hall, it was shown that the year 1913 was the most successful in the history of the organization. He attributed this success to co-operation between miners and operators in the matter of safety in mines, bringing out the startling fact that in 1913 there were 2,758 coal miners killed in the United States.

### THREATENED STRIKE OFF.

St. Paul, Aug. 1.—Employing electrotypers of the Twin Cities have signed a working agreement with the two local electrotypers' unions. The agreement provides for graduated wage increases, improved working conditions and for the settlement of all disputes by an arbitration committee. All wages will be increased $1 a week next year. Two years later another $1 a week will be added. The contract is for four years, and averts the threatened electrotypers' strike.

## METAL STRIKE IS SETTLED

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 1.—The metal polishers' strike against the Hendee Manufacturing Company, makers of the Indian motorcycle, is settled, and the strikers will return to work next Monday. The men were forced on strike January 1 last because of wage reductions which, in some cases, they declared, amounted to $1.50 a day.

Dissatisfaction with working conditions in the shops was a factor in causing the walkout.

Details of the terms of the settlement are lacking, but it is known that both sides made concessions. The union and the company agreed to submit the following formal statement to the press:

"The controversy existing between the Hendee Manufacturing Company and its striking employes has been satisfactorily adjusted.

"The men and the company have both made concessions which have resulted in a very satisfactory settlement of the existing difficulties."

Originally, about 150 men were affected by the strike. These were members of the Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers, Brass and Silver Workers' Union of North America, which, together with the general trade union movement, gave the strikers much assistance. The agreement reached with the company not only includes the metal polishers, but differences in the Building Trades Council are adjusted, and a dispute with the machinists will probably be settled.

The agreement reached provides that all strikers will be reinstated, if they so desire.

### OPERATORS REJECT TERMS.

Boston, Aug. 1.—The Telephone Operators' union has rejected the findings of a conference board formed by officials of the New England Telephone Union and Telephone company and officials of the union in the case of Miss Katherine A. Coyle, president of the union, who was discharged some weeks ago for an alleged infraction of the company's rules.

The conference board offered as a compromise that nine of the ten days' wages Miss Coyle lost between the time she was discharged and her reinstatement be paid. The union, feeling that her discharge was unwarranted, declined to accept the findings and immediately following the meeting notified President Spalding, of the Telephone company to that effect.

The union insists on full restitution of the ten days' pay Miss Coyle lost while out of employment, and it is said, the discharge or reprimanding of the nurse by the union claims was wholly responsible for the unpleasant occurrence, which caused President Coyle's discharge.

### ALL READY FOR CONVENTION.

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 1.—The thirty-eighth convention of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of North America opens here in this city on next Monday and will be in session for two weeks. Two hundred and fifty delegates are expected to be present. Among the matters of scale of the glass bottle blowers will be one of the principal questions to come before the convention. A preliminary conference between representatives of the association and the manufacturers' association on wages was held in May. The results of that conference will be a part of the convention matter which changes the men think should be made. Immediately after the convention, another conference between employers and men will be held, when the wage question will be settled for a year. The chief question to be up for consideration will be the adjustment of the relations which the association shall have with the committee toward newly introduced machinery.

### MAYOR INTERCEDES.

Boston, Aug. 1.—Declaring that the wages paid them are the same as twenty years ago, chainmakers' helpers employed at the local navy yard quit work and succeeded in getting Mayor Curley to intercede for them. In a letter to Secretary Lane, Mayor Curley outlines the conditions under which the men had to work and the small wages paid by the government. The wages, the mayor says, are the same as those paid by the government twenty years ago, while the labor the men are compelled to perform at present has increased in ratio from 100 to 125 per cent. After a thorough investigation by Assistant Naval Constructor Drake, some time ago, that official, it was reported, had recommended an increase for the helpers, but the matter was never acted upon.

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### DON'T NEED BIG CRUISERS.

Mackinac Island, Mich., Aug. 1.—"Heavy armaments are not necessary to the preservation of peace. No greater argument could be used than the fact that neither Great Britain nor the United States has found it necessary to fortify the boundary line or maintain fleets on the Great Lakes," said Judge Alton B. Parker, chairman of a conference composed of representatives from America and Canadian provinces which have dwelt in peace for ninety-eight years. The purpose of the gathering is to lay plans for a fitting celebration.

### VOCATIONAL LAW VALID.

Indianapolis, Aug. 1.—The State Supreme court has decided that the Indiana vocational education law is constitutional. The court says that the legislature might be adopted in one county and not in another, thus creating lack of uniformity in the law which would not render it unconstitutional, nor did the fact that it might increase local taxes, and that the management of vocational education were matters within the competence of the legislature.

### ASK FIVE-CENT INCREASE.

Toledo, Ohio, Aug. 1.—Members of the Carpenters' union employed on municipal bridges are asking for an increase of from 45 cents to 50 cents an hour. The new rate was promised them some time ago, and a committee of the Common Council is revising the city ordinance to increase wages in this craft and several others.

### STATE BUILDERS MEET.

Waco, Tex., Aug. 1.—At a convention of the State Building Trades council, the basis of future representation will be three instead of four delegates from each council. Austin was selected as the next convention city.

### IMPROVED CONDITIONS.

Middletown, N. Y., Aug. 1.—Blacksmiths, machinists, and boiler makers have increased wages and betttered shop conditions.

## MINNESOTA TRADE UNIONISTS PAY TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT GOMPERS AND A. F. OF L.

Duluth, August 1.—At the annual convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, held in this city, the following inspiring tribute to President Gompers and the American Federation of Labor was presented by Delegate Cornelius Guiney, from the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, and was enthusiastically and unanimously adopted by both the committee on resolutions and the convention:

"True to its strong professions, inspiring traditions, pure purposes and lofty aims, the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, in annual convention assembled, once more declares its full confidence in and unwavering loyalty to the American Federation of Labor, its peerless head, Samuel Gompers, who has so long and so wisely guided its activities, and his official colleagues. This State Federation of Labor proclaims its pride in being connected with a parent stem of such robust vigor, immeasurable usefulness and glorious history.

"The American Federation of Labor has illumined the world with the blazonry of its great achievements. The eight-hour day; increased wages; better working conditions; sanitary workshops; factory inspection; safety devices; compensation for injuries in the line of or growing out of employment; sick and death benefits; the abolition of child labor in large measure; war on sweatshops leading rapidly to their extermination; free school books; compulsory education; vocational training; restriction of the hours during which railroad employees can be continuously employed; protection of miners in their hazardous occupation; the reduction of the evils of convict labor to a minimum; sane and helpful employment for the inmates of prisons; a radical change in the attitude of the courts toward the working classes; the establishment of an annual holiday in recognition of the usefulness and dignity of labor; the increased and increasing influence for good of the labor press—these are some of the gifts of the American Federation of Labor to the people of the United States. They are all triumphs for human well-being and have all been won without violence, through the resistless might of enlightened public opinion, which the great American trade union movement has done more than any other agency among men to instruct, convince and arouse to united and effective action.

"The American Federation of Labor finds its mission in the domain of holy endeavor. It seeks the abasement of pride, the redress of wrong, the vindication of unshielded right, the exaltation of the lowly, equal and exact justice to all classes of the population before the law. But it moves not to the field of conflict with bayonets and batteries and troops of the line. Its soul responds not to the blast of the air-piercing trumpet. It starts not at the rude summons of the doubling drum. It eschews at once both the panoply and the destructiveness of war. Its armament is made of uplifting ideas, and its battles are won by their diffusion, concentration into disciplined potencies and practical application to the affairs of every-day life.

"This great leavening and benevolent organization works resistlessly and unostentatiously, but it works constantly, and while its progress is sometimes untoted and at times even ridiculed, its advancement is steady. In our federal congress, now sitting, it has seventeen members enrolled where a few years ago it had none. And that congress has shown, as none before it has ever done, that it considers the working classes of the country as among its chief objects of concern, and their relief from the injustice and cruelty which have so long and so bitterly oppressed them as one of its most important duties.

"The American Federation of Labor is the only institution in this country that has worked for such results and has given all its energies and resources solely and singly to their accomplishment. Like it, the Minnesota State Federation of Labor can look the whole world squarely in the face and point to its record of service to humanity without a tremor or a blush for anything it has ever done or attempted. Both can rest securely on the principles they proclaim and practice, all of which look to the approval and support of all true men and women who are sincerely interested in the welfare of their fellows."

## FOR SAFETY ON RAILROADS

Washington, Aug. 1.—The House committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has reported favorably an amendment to the boiler inspection law, so that this act shall include the entire locomotive and tender and all parts thereof, instead of applying to the boiler alone. The committee calls attention to the fact that the safety appliance law applies to the entire car, and the Interstate Commission whereby defects can be remedied, and that court action is necessary to have penalties, as pending such suit, unsafe equipment is kept in service, to the jeopardy of the lives and limbs of the employes and travelers and the property of the companies, and without sufficient assurance that the evidence required to bring about a conviction is frequently lacking. Violations of the safety appliance act do not bar under the railroad companies from, in many instances, keeping parts other than the boiler of the locomotive in improper repair and using the equipment when not fit to be operated.

The committee further says:

"The act, as before stated, leaves in force all that is effective of safety appliances in railroad equipment and gives the much-needed additional authority ordering unsafe locomotives summarily out of service, under such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Interstate Commerce Commission."

### COLORADO WORKERS TO CONFER

Pueblo, Colo., Aug. 1.—The most important convention in the history of the Colorado State Federation of Labor will be held in this city, beginning Monday, August 17. The call, issued by President McLennan and Secretary-Treasurer Hickey, says:

"Many unions have been organized, which has added greatly to our strength. There are now more unions affiliated with the Federation than at any time in its history.

"There will be many questions of vital importance presented to this convention which should receive careful consideration, that the best interests of our movement shall be preserved. The records of state and legislative candidates should be considered thoroughly, a policy adopted, and a campaign outlined that will result in organized labor taking united political action. There is need of deliberation, advice and counseling at this time."

### DON'T NEED BIG CRUISERS.

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## COOL HEAD PREVENTS RIOT

Allentown, Pa., Aug. 1.—The refusal of President Maurer, of the State Federation of Labor, to make an address in defiance of orders by the police, prevented a riot that would surely follow this attempt of fifty policemen to disperse a crowd of 10,000 people. The affair grew out of an appeal of striking corset conditions in municipal affairs by Council, man Robert Wheeler, who was arrested and fined $50. The Central Labor Union took the matter up, considering it both an invasion of labor's rights, and called on the State Federation of Labor to aid. This brought President Maurer here, and when he announced a public meeting, the Central square. Mayor Rinn issued an order forbidding free speech in Allentown streets. The union attempted to take advantage of his constitutional rights prevented disorder. David Williams, secretary-treasurer of the local central labor union, said: "We understand the mayor is acting on a decision rendered by Judge Yeager on a petition of council passed in 1905, which gives the mayor the right to prohibit free speech. If Yeager gives decisions like this against the workers of the state, we shall unite politically and defeat Judge Yeager's candidacy for the superior court."

### INSIST ON UNION SHOP.

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—The Pacific District Council of Electrical Workers has prepared a union shop agreement and submitted same to the Pacific Gas and Electric company. This agreement provides that only union men shall be employed in all departments of all the plants operated by the company. The agreement has already been approved by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and has been submitted for the approval of the central labor bodies in districts liable to be affected in case the company refuses to accept the agreement.

It is claimed that since the strike of a year ago the Pacific Gas and Electric company has maintained nonunion shop conditions in its outside work, except in San Francisco and immediate vicinity.

### CAUSE OF UNREST.

Chicago, Aug. 1.—"Big business holds a heavy hand over the back of the working man and constantly presses him down, and this control big business exercises not only in industrial affairs, but in public life—there's your cause for industrial unrest."

Bringing his big fist down on the table with a resounding bang, John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, who testified before the federal commission on industrial relations, thus summed up his answer as to causes of the ill-feeling between the big employer and the man who toils.

### ARE CONFIDENT OF VICTORY.

Wilburton, Okla., August 1.—Unionists are preparing to offer vigorous resistance against the claim of J. D. Hartsfield, who is said to own stock in the amount of $2,000, alleging that his business has been injured because of a boycott. Recently the Colorado coal miners were temporary injunction by Judge W. H. Brown, at Stigler, who sustained the unionists' contention that the writ was void. Judge Brown has long been known as a friend of labor from his boyhood he had learned to hate government by injunction.

### MEDIATOR IS ILL.

Washington, Aug. 1.—The proposed conference between Secretary of Labor Wilson and Hywell Davies and William R. Green, Colorado coal mine operators, to determine a further line of action for Federal mediation, has been indefinitely postponed because of the serious illness of Davies. It is possible that it will be necessary to appoint a new conciliator in Davies' place.

### TO REFORM COURT PROCEDURE.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 1.—Gov. Cox has appointed Judge Edward D. Follett, of Cincinnati, member of the committee authorized by the legislature to work out methods for reform of judicial procedure in Ohio. Secretary Donnelly, of the Ohio Federation of Labor, represents the workers on this commission.

### RAISE WAGES.

Anderson, Ind., Aug. 1.—As a result of trade union activity, painters and carpenters' unions in this city have raised wages.

## "UNIONS BENEFIT PUBLIC"

Chicago, Aug. 1.—"Collective bargaining is much more simple and satisfactory than dealing with individuals. Disputes between workmen and employers can be adjusted more quickly and far more benefited," declared President Gindele, of the Chicago Building Employers' association, before the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, which is holding hearings in this city.

"On the whole, I know of no better system for maintaining industrial peace than the one we have in the building trades. Workmen and the employer brought President Maurer here, and when the meeting was announced by public speakers on the corner, Mayor Rinn issued an order forbidding free speech in Allentown streets. The union attempted to take advantage of his constitutional rights prevented disorder. David Williams, secretary-treasurer of the local central labor union, said: "We understand the mayor is acting on a decision rendered by Judge Yeager on a petition of council passed in 1905, which gives the mayor the right to prohibit free speech. If Yeager gives decisions like this against the workers of the state, we shall unite politically and defeat Judge Yeager's candidacy for the superior court."

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## INSIST ON REAL PUBLICITY

Washington, Aug. 1.—The Rucker bill, passed by the House of Representatives, and intended to provide for publicity of campaign contributions, is declared to be full of "jokers" by the National Popular Government league, whose secretary-treasurer, Judson King, of this city, in a letter analyzing the bill, and addressed to every Representative, exposes these four "jokers":

First—It requires publicity only from campaign committees operating in "two or more states." Therefore, any trust or corrupting influence can spend money freely through state or local committees without publicity.

Second—Primary elections committees in states are exempt, although just as important, and in many states more important, than general elections.

Third—The amount a candidate may himself expend is limited, but not "the amount which may be spent in his behalf. Even many of the latter interests can back up their favorite to the limit in secret, but the people's candidate is out in the open.

Fourth—Only a "wilful" violation can be punished—which is a near impossibility to prove in court.

"If this," says the letter, is honest, effective publicity, such as the people demand, then a wet sleeve is a fire-proof milk pan."

The letter provoked a discussion in the House, and while some amendments were made to the committee's report, the parliamentary situation was such that the bill as finally passed offers little encouragement to those who really favor the widest publicity of campaign contributions.

Mr. King has issued another letter, urging that the anti-publicity alliance against the National Popular Government league and the American Federation of Labor be dropped by the Gwin amendment, to take the place of the Rucker bill.

In his letter, Mr. King shows that both the leading parties promised the people publicity in their 1912 platforms, and that there is little question that if a real publicity bill could be brought before the House at this session it would be passed.

The letter also says:

"There is a small labor group today in the House of Representatives which exercises an influence for good, all out of proportion to its numbers. This group should be met where it is strong, by a number of men in the ranks of organized labor, and among the working classes, who, for general culture, brains and ability are the equals of any man on the floor of the House—any nothing of their loyalty to the common good.

"But these men cannot afford to make a campaign. Ask them to do so and they will rightfully reply, 'What chance have I got against Congressman Standpat? Somebody will have to elect him by train trip. I can't go against a game like that. What's the use?'

"Money makes elections with rare exceptions, and the special interests spent $2,000,000 to elect their men. The corruption and fraud from this cause have shocked the nation. Hence, the demand for publicity. Publicity is the only remedy for campaign contributions and what they are expended for."

When the time is now before the Senate, and efforts will be made to have it replaced by the Senate Owens bill, which provides for publicity before election by the people and promised by the two major parties in their last national platforms.

## CANNERY WORKERS WIN STRIKE

San Jose, Cal., Aug. 1.—After a short strike, workers employed at the plant of the California Packing Association have won their strike and returned to work. The employes demanded better working conditions and the payment of a wage for certain classes of labor from 17 1-2 cents to 20 cents an hour. The workers announced the increase to be a cents an hour for men, will be as granted. Cook room assistants will be increased from $60 per month under fourteen years of age are not to be allowed to work. About 600 men, women and girls were affected by the strike.

## IS 90 PER CENT ORGANIZED.

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—In discussing the Education Bond Election, Secretary Alexander, of the San Francisco Federation of Labor, says: "Fully 90 per cent of the labor in Stockton is thoroughly organized, and the Fulton strikers in the capital, and for the first time the mill workers had an opportunity of expressing their opinion on child labor.

The strikers are standing together loyally and the mill owners are meeting in inducing other employes to join them. The company has brought in over 100 strikebreakers this week, but the strikers send most of them away as fast as they come.

## BUILDERS' STRIKE SETTLED.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 1.—The building trades' strike that has affected 2,000 men in this district for the past two weeks, is practically settled, and will be of much greater magnitude than the workmen involved would indicate, as about $12,000,000 worth of building operations were tied up. The final conference was presided over by Peter Reese, deputy building inspector of the Pittsburgh district of the State Department of Labor, and was attended by about 100 members of various local labor unions and of the Builders' Exchange. The exact character of the settlement reached could not be learned further than that concessions were made on all sides.

## ACTIVE IN ALLENTOWN.

Allentown, Pa., Aug. 1.—Aggressive trade unionism is bearing fruit in this city. Brewery workers, electricians, painters and paper hangers have received wage increases, and in some cases shorter hours. Organization has made rapid progress during the past few months four new locals of carpenters and mill workers, tailors, and painters and paper hangers have been formed. A local of textile workers is under way, and a local federation of workers in all the craft is predicted.

## TEAMSTERS RAISE WAGES.

Philadelphia, Aug. 1.—The Team Drivers' union reports success in securing a minimum for their members which provides for a wage increase of fifty cents a day. The membership of this union has increased its membership from 600 to 6,000 and the pay of many of the drivers have been raised from $12 to $15 a week, as a result of trade union methods.

## LAUNDRY WORKERS ORGANIZE.

Troy, N. Y., August 1.—Secretary-Treasurer Morrison, of the Laundry Workers' International Union, announces that a wave of organization is sweeping through this industry. Charters have recently been issued to local unions at Fremont, W. Va., Wichita Falls, Tex., Shreveport, La., and Schenectady, N. Y., and applications are being received for an organizing campaign in Boston.

## LABOR LAW ADVANCES.

Atlanta, Aug. 1.—The child labor bill has passed the house of representatives by a vote of 99 to 44. It is now before the senate, and trade unionists and other reformers are hopeful of the speedy passage. During the hearing on the bill, C. Granniter Bailes had the Fulton strikers in the capitol, and for the first time the mill workers had an opportunity of expressing their opinion on child labor.

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## LABOR LAW FILLS SCHOOLS.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 1.—The child labor law of this state has resulted in large enrollments in the summer schools. Many children who were kept in employment during the vacation period are taking advantage of the opportunity to advance in their studies. Nearly 600 pupils have been registered already at three of the public schools open during the summer.

A child labor department is conducted by the Board of Education, which permits to work are issued. These permits are issued only to those who have attained the age of fourteen years and have passed through the fifth grade, except in the case of newsboys, who are not required to have finished the fifth grade.

## PITTSBURGH STEEL BOOM.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 1.—It is announced that eight new tin mills owned by the Jones-Laughlin company have been put into operation, and that seven more mills already working, the full target of thirty-two mills are now running full time. The eight new mills have only lately been erected, and will give employment to about 800 additional men. It was also announced by the McKeesport Tin Plate company that they are preparing plans for eighteen new mills, to be erected immediately at their Port Vue works. These will make forty mills operated by that company. The new mills will give employment to 1,500 men.

## ADMIT UNION'S BENEFIT.

Chicago, Aug. 1.—Testifying before the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, Edward A. Bent, of the Illinois Coal Operators' association, frankly admitted that miners in this State enjoy better living conditions than those who do the miners in Colorado and Michigan, who are fighting for recognition. The witness said his relations with union labor are very friendly, though contract relations with the unions are somewhat strained at the present time.

## GREEKS OFFERED BIG SUM.

Trinidad, Colo., Aug. 1.—A special dispatch from Denver to the Times says of this city says: "An agent for the Victor-American Fuel company offered Nick Sarris and Greek associates $300 a month if they would return to work. Other inducements were offered to leave the Walsenburg district. 'But we like their money,' Sarris said, 'We would rather have our reputation.'"

## SHOULD NOT WORK OVERTIME.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 1.—The local Building Trades Council has declared that eight hours must be observed by all unions in this city. Carpenters should be worked except in cases of exceptional emergency. It is declared that overtime on public works are violating the spirit of the eight-hour law and eagerly pay for overtime work.

## START "LABOR FORWARD."

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 1.—The Central Labor Council has appointed a committee of ten to take charge of a "labor forward" movement in this city. Many locals have already appointed committees to work with the central body. The movement is declared will be a campaign of education.

## GENERAL ADVANCE.

Jamestown, N. Y., Aug. 1.—Painters, carpenters, sheet metal workers, plumbers and other trades have increased the wages in the city without trouble.

# Secret Immigration Practices Of Big Steamship Companies Is Exposed

An exhaustive report on immigration to the United States from Eastern Europe and Asiatic Turkey has been submitted to Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, by W. W. Husband, as a special representative of the department, recently completed a six months' investigation in Russia, Austria, Hungary, Servia, Bulgaria, Turkey, and Greece. The inquiry covered practically every phase of the question including the causes of immigration, violations of the United States immigration and contract labor laws, activities of steamship ticket agents, artificial promotion of immigration, exploitation of immigrants, etc. Secretary Wilson was especially desirous that means be devised for preventing the attempted immigration of diseased or otherwise inadmissible persons, when the fact that they could not enter the excluded classes might be determined at their homes or at least at a foreign port of embarkation. Nearly 20,000 immigrants were rejected at United States ports in 1913 for various causes, and Secretary Wilson believes that many of these would not have undertaken the journey had they known the requirements of the United States law. He feels that every possible means should be taken to remedy a situation which causes such hardship and disappointment to so many helpless people.

The report states that while avoidance of military service, a desire for adventure, dissatisfaction with political and social conditions, and alleged discrimination on account of race or religion, are causes of emigration, economic are the sources named, all of these combined are of little importance compared with the simple economic inducement of higher wages and a steadier demand for labor in the United States than obtain at home. Encouraging letters from relatives in America, and evidences of prosperity displayed by returned immigrants, supplemented by the persuasive work of steamship ticket agents and brokers, are given as the chief secondary causes of immigration. Officials in Russia believe that more than one-half of the emigration from that country is due to these agents and brokers, while a competent Hungarian authority estimated that 50,000 emigrants left Hungary in 1913 as a result of such propaganda.

Foreign steamship companies are not permitted to do an open emigration business in Russia, and their activities in other countries are greatly hampered by strict regulations. Moreover, emigration from all such countries is illegal unless consented to by the government, which consent is often withheld for military and other reasons. To overcome these conditions the Hamburg-American Line has an extensive secret agency system under which a large part of the emigration movement from there into the Baltic and Black Seas ports of steamship lines or semi-independent concerns which cannot operate legally in countries named. These agencies or branches are located at convenient points outside such countries, and these, through co-operation with the secret agency system, reap a rich harvest without assuming responsibility for the violations of law involved. Because of alleged mistreatment of helpless emigrants, secret agents, as a class, are very generally detested, and many of them are practically outlaws in the countries where they operate. A part of Husband's report to his agent is so widely associated with this hated class that persons taking agencies in the interior of Russia should not be imposed upon using some other designation.

A good many legal steamship ticket agents also operate in the various countries and while they solicit emigration as a matter of course they are as controlled by government authority, and in some cases by the steamship companies employing them, that their activities in Russia are honestly treated. Intending emigrants applying to them for transportation are given the usual conditional agreement at home and if found diseased are not accepted. In this way many innocent persons have avoided the hardship of undertaking a fruitless attempt to reach America, when secret agents would have caused them to undertake the journey without examination of any kind.

Practically all Eastern European immigrants know before leaving home that work will be available in the United States, and in many cases the assurance is definite that they are technically contract laborers, and therefore liable to deportation. Many of these people do not seem to realize the fact for our contract labor law is not generally understood in the United States, and because it is the direct opposite of the policy of Canada and other countries which seek to promote immigration by prescribing employment. Importation of laborers in direct violation of our law also occurs, but it is not believed to be practically common.

Aside from some obvious fundamental exceptions, he says the report, "the interests of emigrant furnishing and immigrant receiving countries concerned in the present movement of population from Eastern Europe to the New World are practically identical. Broadly speaking, this movement results from a natural economic law which is universally recognized, and which, if it is generally admitted, does not well be set aside. The difficulty in the situation, however, arises chiefly from the fact that the movement is constantly interfered with by artificial influences, back of which is the desire for profit on the part of those who profit through the movement. Chief among these influences are the many attempting agents and brokers operating in Europe and to some extent in the United States; the transportation companies, companies, and the railways and lesser steamship lines which serve as feeders for them, and employees in the United States who demand an exhaustless supply of cheap labor."

The artificial promotion of emigration and immigration by such agencies is contrary to the policy of practically all enlightened countries, and is directly subject to the policy of the United States. Such artificial promotion is thought to be detrimental, both to the economic welfare of the countries concerned, and it is also the general belief that the welfare of the immigrants as a class is not especially obviously affected by the operations of the agents there. The matter of diseases is clearly an international one, and therefore should be subjected to international supervision. The question of emigration was informally discussed with officials in charge of immigration matters in various countries visited, and the sentiment met with favor and with informal expressions of belief that such countries would be willing to meet and agree to cooperate with the United States in that regard.

"It is suggested that by means of such co-operation many of the evils now attending the immigration movement might be lessened and perhaps in some instances largely eradicated. Information concerning the requirements of the United States immigration law could be disseminated in the various countries in order to prevent persons of the excluded classes from incurring their homes in a useless attempt to enter the United States. An exchange of information relative to the activities of agencies promoting immigration is also suggested as one of the possible advantages of co-operation. It is also not improbable that some means could be devised of otherwise assisting immigrant-furnishing countries in the enforcement of their laws in return for like service to the United States."

In order to further international co-operation, and also for the purpose of securing information upon which to base a more rigid enforcement of the United States law relative to induced immigration, Husband recommends that the Bureau of Immigration Service be permanently established in Europe and Asiatic Turkey. Unless such action is instituted it is believed that immigration from Eastern Europe will continue at its present inadvisable proportions for many years, although in some of the countries there is a feeling that industrial development will soon create a home market for surplus labor as in the case of Germany. In the Balkan States and Greece it is believed by some that the development of territory recently acquired from Turkey will serve to draw the surplus population at home, and in Italy a like prophecy is made concerning that country's progress in relation to Northern Africa. But if this should occur, says the report, the decrease can not suddenly be made up by an increase in the movement from Austria, Hungary, and Russia, and more particularly from the last-named country. Russia is regarded as the most important source of immigration in Europe, and if increases from that direction are to be checked even relatively as great as it has been from other countries the emigration as a whole will be greatly reduced, as many immigrants as come from all Europe in an average year.

Considerable space is devoted to the character of recent immigration from Russia. Heretofore nearly all immigrants from that country originated among the so-called "alien" population of the border provinces, including Jews, Poles, Lithuanians, and Finns, but recently there has been a rapid increase in the emigration from Russian stock, the movement. At present these are largely White Russians and Little Russians, who are from the provinces of the interior and of the west, but the sources are being pushed eastward to the provinces which are peopled by the Great Russian predominant and by far the most numerous race in Russia.

Concerning the Great Russians the report says in part:

"A very large proportion of these people belong to the peasant class, from which nearly all Eastern European immigration is drawn, and the conditions which forced emigration from other countries are also to be found in this section of Russia. The simple fact is that the peasants must live by agriculture, and the land available will not support the rapidly increasing population, owing both to under-existing methods of agriculture. This overcrowding of the land has resulted in a large measure from the failure of the movements to other outlying parts of the empire. In 1908 approximately 750,000 peasants migrated to Siberia, but this movement has fallen off greatly since that time; the alleged reason being that land is available, but that it can be had only largely taken up. The movement to Siberia will be regarded as the logical means of reducing the population pressure in the European provinces, and this point has great significance. It is natural that overseas immigration should be substituted. Comparatively few Great Russians have left for Greece as yet, but unless all signs fail it will not be many years before they take a leading part in that region. This probability led to as careful a study of the capabilities and character of the Russian peasant as was possible, in order to ascertain if the possibility of directing immigrants of this class to some activity in the United States other than that of unskilled industrial labor, which field has so largely absorbed other Eastern European immigration.

"During the investigation in Russia much discussion was had concerning the general character of the Russian peasants, and the consensus of opinion among those qualified to speak appeared to be that the peasants are essentially an excellent people in many ways. The Russian Jew, who is generally known to travelers and writers; and prominent Russians, both Jews and Gentiles, very frequently to the author, from his personal observation, although necessarily somewhat restricted, is not the same contemptible, a large proportion of these peasants live under the communal land system, which was established when they were released from serfdom in 1861. Since that time there has been an enormous increase in the number of people, even with relatively little increase in the land held by them. Under the communal system the land is redistributed from time to time their lands, and in a sense they are still bound to the soil. Consequently the peasant's interest is not so pronounced as in Russia which tends to induce his return to his native village, and because of this he is naturally a temporary rather than a permanent visitor in the country to which he goes.

"Moreover, it appears that the peasants are inclined to be dissatisfied with industrial life in the United States. Early in the investigation a school teacher in the city of Minsk, who as they say in Russia, came from the peasants, asked whether in the United States did not put the Russians on the land instead of in the factories. He was informed that they did not like industrial occupations and that in consequence many returned who had gone to the United States, but who have acquired some land. Subsequent inquiry forced the conclusion that in an intelligent sense there is no peasant class in Russia with the possible exception of those who have settled in Europe and Asiatic Turkey. Even these have not practiced it long enough to be fully weaned as the logical result of the agricultural life of the peasant class is considered. The communal interest is so strongly developed among them that the people of a village are essentially a unit in many particulars. It is said that the large migrations to Siberia have very largely moved in accordance with village organizations. When such migration is proposed, forerunners are sent to inspect places suggested and if satisfactory to report to the people always abide by the decision of the inspectors. Overseas emigration is very largely based on the same principle, although it does not appear that the colonies established are conducive as in the case of the Siberian movement. It is true, however, that the present Russian peasant's interest in the United States is almost entirely directed to cities and industrial centers because the early pioneers have gone there, and unless means are taken to divert it, future immigration of the same class is almost certain to follow the same channels.

"It is believed that if desired, and if taken in time, Russian immigrants can be directed to the land as well as to the industrial centers. They love the land but they do not like the factory. They have the ability and are generally willing, the willingness to work and work hard. This is especially true of agricultural labor under adverse circumstances, which kind of labor would seem to be required in the development of the vast areas of so-called waste land in the United States, a great deal of which can be brought under cultivation if the right sort of men were directed. Taking fully into account the existing conditions in this regard, it is believed that the Russian peasant immigration, which seems almost sure to increase greatly in the near future, affords the best opportunity for developing a movement to the land since the Scandinavians so successfully settled the Central States a generation or more ago."

Although Russian peasants cannot readily dispose of their communal interests in the land, says the report, this ownership is only in name, and since the edict of 1906 and the so-called Stolypin land act of 1910, which provide for upgrading of the communal land system of Russia with an individual tenure system, a good many communes have already disbanded and it is believed that in time the old system will practically disappear. Under the new plan peasants are free to sell their individual holdings, and it was predicted in Russia that many would do so. It seems probable also that many of the landless peasants will emigrate permanently and that some of those will become capital with which to make a start as independent farmers in the New World.

The report further says: "Probably it is not generally realized that the Russian peasant population is the best single source from which the United States can expect to draw immigration. Beyond Europe and Asiatic Turkey the Mongolian peoples of Asia, with the Japanese, Hindus, and other races of the south. Because of this it would seem wise that every effort be made to utilize the immigration from the capital with which to make a start as independent farmers in the New World.

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"Russia is not generally considered a manufacturing country, but the industrial interest is so strongly developed among them that the people of a village are essentially a unit in many particulars. It is said that the large migrations to Siberia have very largely moved in accordance with village organizations. When such migration is proposed, forerunners are sent to inspect places suggested and if satisfactory to report to the people always abide by the decision of the inspectors. Overseas emigration is very largely based on the same principle, although it does not appear that the colonies established are conducive as in the case of the Siberian movement. It is true, however, that the present Russian peasant's interest in the United States is almost entirely directed to cities and industrial centers because the early pioneers have gone there, and unless means are taken to divert it, future immigration of the same class is almost certain to follow the same channels.

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The report further says: "Probably it is not generally realized that the Russian peasant population is the best single source from which the United States can expect to draw immigration. Beyond Europe and Asiatic Turkey the Mongolian peoples of Asia, with the Japanese, Hindus, and other races of the south. Because of this it would seem wise that every effort be made to utilize the immigration from the capital with the most advantageous to the United States, and probably there will be little dissent from the idea of the state encouraging colonies in the direction of building up a sturdy, needed constitutional population, rather than in allowing this class of immigrants to increase the common labor supply in the industrial centers already overstocked." It is recommended that a thorough study of the situation be made with a view to framing a plan for effecting or encouraging the suggested distribution. In this connection it is related that the Russian peasant land tenure plan was inaugurated in Russia that the people might be relieved of the strips and scattered homesteads established. Many of the peasants objected to this plan, because of the fact that many of the communes have accepted the individual tenure plan on condition that they be allowed to retain the right to pasture of habitation. This peculiarity of Russian peasant immigration, the report suggests, would necessarily have to be taken into account in any attempt that might be made to direct such immigration in connection with the agrarian situation in the United States.

## THE "OPEN SHOP" BOGEY

Word comes from Stockton, Cal., that a number of business men and others, all well meaning, perhaps, have set out to put Stockton on the map as an "open shop" town. A lot of fuss has already been made, and it is likely that more will follow before the end aimed at will be gained, if ever it can be. The fight for the "open shop" becomes a one-sided nightmare to those who fail to learn the lesson that wise men have learned, to-wit: That labor is worthy of its hire; that man is more than a square deal with machinery and with capital.

If the people of Stockton clearly understood what is meant by the term "open shop" there would be little doubt but that the support of "hands off" and "no quarter" would disappear like snow before the sun. In the ignorance of the men who put up the fight as well as in the prejudice of other men, lie the strength of the "open shop" movement, if indeed any strength is to be found.

The "open shop" advocates in this country demand control of their employees and also of the men who do the work. And why should they be denied this privilege? Do they not furnish almost the iron and steel machines in the plant, and do not these machines cost more money than men who work for wages in a few hours each day? So far in the discussion on the "open shop" it is quite impossible for captains of industry to separate the human element from the equipment or capitalistic ambition from their right to the end of controlling labor as they control pig iron or fir lumber. Labor in America will not submit to accept a system of assuming authority.

Many broad-minded men think they believe in the "open shop" as it is offered by the manufacturers and big business interests. They think thus because they do not follow out in full what "open shop" offered is truly the open shop of well-organized industry. These men would not follow such a fight except for wealth at the expense of men and women, but they follow the noise produced by the "open shop" cry because they oppose unionism and organization. The "open shop" cry sounds plausible to men who have not dealt with the practically non-union shop, for they assume that in the "open shop" movement all employees may find employment when it is to be had. These good fellows do not understand that unionism has barred the plant where the "open shop" theory is put into practice, and that men in all their helplessness are at the mercy of those to work, with the fear of dismissal always before their eyes.

The "open shop" theory does not capital take it for granted that men have the same right to organize as has capital; that men must protect themselves and maintain a level of prosperity or society will suffer? Why is it necessary to try to do the impossible, and then charge back on society the expense in the form of charity bills. And at the same time men have to use the hard-earned dollars which are needed by wives and children for food, to fight for rights which any fairminded group of men of broad vision would concede or legislate for.

## NO ROOM FOR DESTRUCTIONISTS

Pessimists to the contrary, there is joy in achievement; in work well done, if only in the accomplishment.

We realize, none better, that those who are doing the useful work of this world are not receiving, even approximately, a fair return for their labor, manual or mental.

It is the mission of the workers themselves to change these unjust conditions; and to accomplish this we will take years of patient striving, of education, of organization and co-operation.

In the long run the results of the labor of the workers is all good. Room for improvement? We will grant that. So, like even under present-day conditions we are ever finding the better way.

The approach to industrial justice will be led by the most efficient of the workers. The intelligence that makes for their efficiency as producers of wealth will make the living problem of more equitable distribution.

The real reactionaries are the destroyers: the one who would express their discontent by inefficiency in their work; by destroying the results of their labor, by whatever apparently thought, to emphasize their discontent.

As we have expressed ourselves in previous articles, we more than doubt even the sincerity of common criminals and the so-called leaders who advocate such destructive policies, the success of which would entail the total destruction of our operators as have adopted the rule of force; have refused the workers any expression as to what should be their conditions of employment, kept them in absolute serfdom through their hired armies and their courts.

The amicable relationship that has existed for years between the operators and leaders of the organized fields is by them recognized as an ever-present threat against their despotic rule over their own employees. And, in our opinion, by now being ably aided by the pretended friends of the workers in fields where temporary difficulties exist toward the permanent breaking off of such friendly relationship.

The result can only be a cataclysm of sabotage, of direct action, of destructive activity were absolutely honest in their expressions of good intentions toward the men who toil, nevertheless their program is impossible. If carried out successfully to its conclusion their program could only lead to the absolute destruction of industry, of civilization itself.

The result that could be expected from the success of their program was ably described by Ignatius Donnelly in his "Caesar's Column," in which he shows that humanity would again have to begin its slow, painful climb from out the barbarism through which feudalism and all the horrible conditions that accompany capitalism have temporarily thrust the masses would mean that all the sacrifices of all the patient, forward-looking pioneers of the ages for a free humanity must suffer on the scaffold and in the prison for every step to the recovery of even the ground now gained.

Let us look forward; let us build, not destroy. Every step toward efficiency in production is inevitably a step toward the justice these mistaken men are seeking.

Evolution is with us. Education must make for justice.

The way may be long, but it must be traveled. We cannot go forward by destruction; that inevitably leads to reaction.—United Mine Workers' Journal.

## ELEMENTS THAT RETARD SOLIDARITY

Three enemies the labor organization has within its own ranks—ignorance, malice, and indifference for reasons of laziness, egotism or pride. The latter is the worst enemy.

Ignorance keeps a large number of workers away from the labor organizations. They are victims of certain social order of things which does not sufficiently arouse their mental gifts and which therefore prevents a permanent breaking off of such friendly relationship.

The result is a supine acceptance of sabotage, of direct action, of destructive activity were absolutely honest in their expressions of good intentions toward the men who toil, nevertheless their program is impossible. If carried out successfully to its conclusion their program could only lead to the absolute destruction of industry, of civilization itself.

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## SAYS MOTHERS' PENSIONS IS FORWARD STEP

We all realize that it is a very difficult thing for an able-bodied man in these days to support his wife and little children. And if we say to the widowed mother of a group of little children that she must go out and earn their support and her own by daily labor, we cannot also hold her to account if the children become delinquent or are ill-brought up or ill-cared for. And those working in sociological fields have long realized that a mother's care, if she is a good woman and able, is of far greater value to her children and subsequent to the state than the small amount of money that she is able to earn by daily labor. In other words the state can substitute the financial aid which she requires to support herself and children more easily than it can give to them the moral training and training that is necessary to make of them suitable citizens. The theory of the thing is wonderfully simple and the whole matter resolves itself into a question of administration. That is in having the money given to the relief of the mother, that she is a person who will be of the best for her children, and not for the benefit of her children in return for what the state is doing for them. And to see that she and her children to good citizenship. This question of mothers is a very difficult problem to be accomplished by rather close contact between the court and the family, for, however carefully the original investigation of the circumstances may be made, we are only able to learn the true characteristics of individuals by daily contact with their lives.

Again, many mothers who are able and willing to give their children good care do not find themselves able, without help and advice, to make the most of the opportunities which are given to them. A great deal can be done to make the administration of the family income, however little it may be, more efficient and enable the mother to obtain the most good from the efforts which is placed in her hands for the support and care of her children.

Just how important this item is may be seen from the fact that there are approximately in Wayne County at this time 140 mothers who are receiving aid from the county. An increase of a $1 a week to each of these mothers would seem a very small margin individually, yet it amounts to over $7,000 a year, and, if one or two officers of the court are able by their efforts to save $1 a week to each of these families their salaries of $1,000 a year each is a small matter in comparison.

The aid that these officers can bring to a family is often very considerable—medical service and care of both mother and children or special attention to certain kinds which is available from the different organizations and societies of the city.

The placing of certain kinds of work, which can be done at home, within the reach of the mothers, the training of older children, are all remedies which are constantly being applied by the probation officers for the benefit of the children. This is perhaps best shown by the fact that fifty families during the first three months of the administration of the law in Wayne County expended $13.24 per family for the average for support, and that at the end of six months these same families have been able to reduce their average to $11.50 per family, the general living conditions have materially improved and this all through the efforts of the probation officers.

This oversight and care on the part of the probation officer is not officious or meddlesome, for the mothers themselves itself into the acts of the genuine friend, who, in a helpful spirit, does all that she can to better the conditions of a family in which she is genuinely interested. Four to six visits a week are received universally by the mothers who are getting this form of relief.—Judge Harry S. Hulbert, in Detroit Labor News.

## URGES SAFETY AT SEA LEGISLATION

**THE "MASSACHUSETTS FIRE."**

(From the Washington, D. C., Times.)

The Massachusetts was on fire in New York harbor. If the fire had broken out a few hours later, or at a different place in the vicinity, the 900 persons on board might have had only the choice of burning or drowning. As it was, it came very near to another Titanic horror. In the opinion of those who gave the assistance, the vessel's crew could not have conquered the flames.

Upon whom would the responsibility, in such case, have rested?

Congress has absolute and exclusive jurisdiction, and Congress therefore cannot escape complete responsibility.

That vessels are underequipped in actual life-saving appliances is no longer in dispute.

One question is, Shall this condition be permitted to continue?

The other is, To what extent shall boats be furnished?

Third, Shall the vessel be sufficiently manned to meet emergencies, and, if necessary, to lower the boats and get them away from the side?

About 6,000 persons have lost their lives in passenger vessels in the last half decade. More than 1,500 have been passed since the sinking of the Titanic. Very few know how long it is since the burning of the Slocum. Few have published the Empress of Ireland was but the other day.

Congress has all the information. Investigation after investigation develops the same sordid facts; and in this case it is stated that the crew could not have conquered the flames.

In the meantime, the seamen's bill is slumbering on the calendar, after having been emasculated in the committee.

There is no telling how many more we shall witness the horrors of another Slocum, another Titanic, another Empress. The people are beginning to understand, and will place the blame where it belongs. Members of Congress will have to answer to their constituents and to the people as a whole until such means of safety as can be provided by law are commanded.

**THE SAFETY-AT-SEA BILL.**

(From the Washington, D. C., Post.

It is reported that the leaders of the House are endeavoring to get together and obtain the Senate's consent to a thirty-day recess. Failing in that, they meet every fourth day to deal only with the matters upon the unanimous consent rule. The purpose is to give the members an opportunity to go home to the primaries.

On Saturday last the steamer Massachusetts was on fire in New York harbor. By almost a miracle another Slocum disaster was prevented. It is less than two years since the loss of the Titanic; nearly one year since the loss of the Volturno. The Empress of Ireland was but the other day; and now Congress is discussing adjournment without passing legislation providing for safety at sea.

What answer will members give when called upon to explain their action to their constituents? Having the complete power, they must accept complete responsibility. Some terrible loss of life, another Slocum disaster may occur any time. Then will the country demand to the question: Why did you not enact proper legislation? They cannot answer that they did not have the necessary information upon which to act legislation. The cost of providing boats, davits, and trained men to handle the vessels and boats safely is not large. Those things that are most essential are the things cheapest to buy.

The people want this legislation enacted; they expect members of Congress to keep their platform promises.

## *Establish Playground on Tenement's Roof*

A playground on a roof—this is the latest development of the idea to supply every child in the crowded sections of the city a place to play during the summer.

Not merely a fence around the roof—that's not enough—but a fully equipped playground, with trees and gravel, and swings and awnings, and maybe even a wading pool. Who knows but that Philadelphia may some day have many such playgrounds, high above the streets, blooming with flowers, ringing with the joyous shouts of the little ones, rivaling the famous hanging gardens of ancient Babylon?

It is not a dream—it has been done. Right now in the center of Philadelphia there's a playground on a roof, on the roof garden for grown-ups, but a playground for children of the poor. To the Octavia Hill Association belongs the credit for starting the idea and for putting it into execution. This association builds model tenements, some of them in the foreign section and some for American workingmen, leveraging the rents at reasonable figures and which are fully equipped for all sorts of housekeeping.

On the top of the Italian tenement house, at Seventh and Catherine streets, it opened a playground, just a few days ago. At present it is restricted to children of the tenants. There are plenty of them. Each day during the summer they need not leave their home to get air, all they have to do is go up on the roof. Up there they catch every breeze and can see a distance over the surrounding housetops, their vision going all the way down the Delaware river, with its ferryboats constantly crossing, its tugs chugging and dredging its way and its big liners docking, its barges and its rakroad floats.

Up there are many play devices to occupy the time of the children, there is also a good wall around the roof, surrounded by a wire guard, so that they cannot fall off or even climb over. There also is an instructor, who will guide the children in their play or teach them useful work, sewing, basket weaving, carpentry and other useful things. It is altogether a charming place.

Of course the association can do this thing because it is not the usual sort of landlord. However, it knows by experience that the same, thereby enhancing the value of its property. It knows that when many a house in the crowded sections has to be given up to waste. If the owners would give their tenants there is no reason why some organization such as the Playground association, which is now building to give at least part of the equipment and provide a teacher or attendant. Some sections have no playgrounds and property is too high to warrant the tearing down of buildings to create them. And besides the city cannot spend too much money on playgrounds all at one time. It may be a makeshift or it may be a permanent thing, but in any rate, it is a good thing to try the roof garden project just at this time.—Philadelphia news dispatch.

## *At Last Mill Owners Openly Oppose Freeing Child Slaves*

The gentlemen who have been waxing fat and rich on labor of children in Georgia are finally showing themselves in their true colors.

For years they have been posing as the friends of the poor, the guardians of children, the uplifters.

For years this bill has failed to pass The mill owners know why. In the meantime the men who employ child labor have grown richer and richer as the children whose labor increased their riches and fatness have become poorer and more illiterate and weaker in mind and body.

And now a bill has been prepared which is literally a child slave bill, even in other Southern States. It has been prepared with great care. Its passage will mean that the mill owners will double disgraced by the worst child labor laws in the Union.

The Legislature sees the fairness in this new bill and the mill owners see that there are no loopholes in it.

The mill owners begin to rally their forces. They prepare a collection of facts. They get a lot of men to say that have it substituted for the bill of no jokers which Assemblyman Sheppard is putting for—

"Let us look out for the poor little children," they say. "We have cared for it so well in the past. We will do it better in the future."

The bill is an excellent one: Georgia stands at the foot of the list of States in the matter of child labor.

"Children in the mills are not nearly as ignorant as children in the country," they profess.

The United States government is authority for the statement that the greatest illiteracy among children is in the mills, and that illiteracy in Georgia is increasing.

"No child can learn to read and write after it is fourteen years old," they plead.

Once more the gentlemen of the mills are right. No child of any age children's spare hours are taken away from them, can learn to read and write.

"The children we have employed in the mills," they boast.

If this is true, a great many children have been discharged during the last forty-eight hours.

Failing, as they certainly will, to take their bill, with substitutions, out of the Sheppard bill, the gentlemen who keep children at work eleven hours a day will have their representatives in the legislature—and they are represented—fire amendments at the Sheppard measure.

These amendments will contain all the jokers necessary for them to continue to collect dividends from child labor and to wax fatter and richer while the little children of Georgia will be chained tighter to their task of their looms.

Along the road of dividends the child of the factories and the mills leads the procession of child labor.

At the end of the road the child drops into the grave, worn out. And the employer moves into his automobile, the comfortable yacht. How long will "civilization" endure this infamy?—Atlanta Georgian.

## "UNION SHOP" PRINCIPLE INDORSED

In a recent issue of this International Molders' Journal there appeared a quotation from an opinion handed down by Justice Higgins, president of the Australian court of conciliation and arbitration, which ably states the case for the union shop, and which we reproduced to be read by every trade unionist. Justice Higgins does not, of course, say anything concerning the union shop as such, the average well-informed trade unionist does not firmly believe to be true, but he presents an admirable argument for the trade union attitude on this important question.

This decision was the outcome of a case between the building trades and 620 building contractors, and it is the leading test case that has come up for decision in Australia as to the validity of the preference clause in trade union shops. As the principles involved operate the same in Australia as in any other country, the decision is equally apt to conditions in America.

The truth is, Justice Higgins said, "preference" is sought for unionists in order to prevent preference of non-unionists and unionists. Preference is sought to stop bleeding of unionism by the feeding of non-unionism. It is a weapon of defense. The industrial peace provided by the law through the Independent Workers' Federation—a body supported chiefly by employers—has been a failure, because even the ordinary unionist and those who applied for work as the "Order" of the day would not be introduced to the employer unless they ceased to be members of the industry unions and became members of this body.

"What is to be done to protect men in the exercise of their right as free men to combine for their mutual benefit, seeing that the employer has the most tremendous power of giving or withholding work? . . . It is, indeed, very trying for men who day after day, in the legitimate union to work side by side with men who refuse to join, men who look to their own personal interests only, content to curry favor with the employers, getting for themselves all benefits of increased wages or betterment of conditions which is secured without their aid and in the teeth of their opposition. Is it to be preferred (other things being equal) for trade unionists?

"Every fair man recognizes the difficulty of the position—every man who is not too much of a partisan to look sometimes at the other side of the hedge. I put the case recently before me, a non-unionist told me that he acted always on the basis of his own personal interest without any regard for the interest of his fellow workers. He looked for favors to himself, because he kept away from the union, and declared for the common good of the whole body."

Justice Higgins, in the result, coming from an eminent jurist, and an able answer to the sophistry of the Rockefeller-Baer-Belmont-Parry-Post gang of Michigan, and the other capitalists and their hirelings who prate of the "principles at stake" when their business brings about industrial warfare. "Preference" is the only practical means by which they fall back upon as a last resort. But from their lips we do not learn the "principles at stake." Their only choice is invariably used as an instrument to destroy the hated foe—unionism. Justice Higgins pertinently directs attention to that fact.—The Carpenter.

## DON'T FAVOR CHILD LABOR

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 1.—Condemnation of child labor was one of the features of the annual report of the Social Service committee of the Diocese of the Episcopal Church, which says:

"It is almost a truism to say that the labor of children at the early age is physically and mentally detrimental. There is not enough exercising work to go round, and the divisions of labor tend to offer an enervating effect upon the brain. Instead of the variety of work and often changing, and a study room will produce unusual results. The boy tenders upon the streets form bad companionships, which are a menace to society, in which they are obliged to go occasion them at all an early age. The all-day worker is prevented from school, the opportunities for an education, even the ordinary education, are denied them. The livingstones who study at the shuttle are few and far between. The fact is that the employer is not responsible for the regularity of the employee as is often supposed, but more frequently to the parents of the laborer's home, and the desires of the children themselves.

"At present 18,000 boys and girls under sixteen years of age in factories and many more thousands in other industries in Pennsylvania. Child Labor Association will petition the legislature that the hours of children between fourteen and sixteen to work at night eight hours a day, and more than six days a week, and that the night work of children, and street trade for boys under twelve and girls under eighteen. Upon the right for the two latter reforms we are positive and if the former would come a ruinous reduction in the family income, cannot the pay for those night hours be raised? The committee urges upon the people the duty to form a proper conscience permits, to use your influence for remedial measures."

## PRESENTED NEW AGREEMENT.

Ottawa, Can., Aug. 1.—Brewery workers in that city have presented a new agreement to their employers, and as few changes are made, a continuance of present relations is anticipated. The old agreement provided overtime rates for Labor Day only. In the new scale other holidays are to be added.

## FRIENDSHIP

**Berton Braley.**

If you can agree to disagree
And argue without a fight;
If you can differ and still be true
To be yourselves as you wish to be;

If
According to each man's right;

If you can swallow the language,
Of a brutal and truthful knock;
If you can take it—and simply
Rank
The man who gives it as one to
For a rude but healthy shock;

If you can sit in deep content,
To hear your opinions assailed,
And somehow know how much
Is the sheer message of love
By the silent
Though never a word you hear,

If you can borrow and give and
Still trusting to one another,
And let it go at that—
Why, then, my friend, you have
The rarest gift on earth.
As real and true as a brother!

## WOULD BAR ASIATICS.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 1.—Trade unionists here adopted a resolution demanding the exclusion of all Asiatics from Canada as inimical to the interests of the working people. Strong criticisms were made at the present time on the Chinese as being ineffective for its declared purpose.

## NONUNIONISTS JOIN STRIKE.

Philadelphia, Aug. 1.—When the organized sheet metal workers employed at a local plant in this city, went on strike after failing to adjust differences they were joined immediately afterward by nonunionists employed by the same concern. Practically all the workers in the shop are now out.

## THE DOG AND DOG DAYS

De dog, he keeps a-dozin' so
peaceful all de day.
He wink at de cat a-prowlin' de
butter-flies at play.
He puts de paw across his face
to brush away a fly.
An' he is so lazy he don't ag'in
wif a contented sigh.
He doesn' rush aroun' to find a
bone to bury.
Nor ax a heap o' sympathy be-
cause he's feelin' sick.
I envies him a-lyin' dar as still
as he kin be.
Everybody's worryin' 'bout de
dog days—but not de dog.

We talks of 'sponsibilities dat
others have to bear,
An' we gits so interested dat day
we fo'get to do our work.
We tries to reggle-ate de look
Of de sun, de moon, an' de stars.
When day goes on right peace-
ful, we gits mad 'cause it
runnin' hour.
Remember, when you gets into
an anxious frame of mind
De troubles dat you borrows is
de toughest you kin find.
Each finds his way to git along
Jes' de best he kin, I know.
Everybody worries 'bout de dog
days—but de dog.
—Washington Star.

## INDORSE PLAN TO CUT RATES

Philadelphia, Aug. 1.—Nearly half a hundred cities have responded to Mayor Blankenburg's call for the formation of a cooperative league to secure lower electric light against all public utilities corporations to compel the fixing of rates on the basis of "the cost of production plus a fair profit," and not on the basis of "the value of the service to the user," which is the other way of stating "all the traffic will bear." The proposal plan is described in a letter sent by Mayor Niles, chairman of the New, Hampshire Commission, who says:

"The plan of Mayor Blankenburg proposes, if it is capable of being carried out, will be of the very greatest assistance to the public service commissioners in the several states. We have been obliged to carry on a number of important rate fights against the wishes of which has there been any representation of the municipality or of the general public, and we have had to rely upon the testimony of the corporations themselves. The law under which a commission labors when only one side is represented before it."

"We have in every case done our best to induce the officers of the municipality concerned to be represented before the commission, but the probable expense has been so great that they have not dared to undertake it. It will be a great relief to us and to all other commissioners, if Mayor Blankenburg's plan works out successfully."

## MORE LIGHT, MORE OPTIMISM

The national commission on industrial relations began hearings in Chicago. It seeks to investigate the whole range of industry—to find the causes of industrial unrest.

That there is industrial unrest nobody pretends to deny. That there are many things that call for change or remedy nobody questions. That it is the business of the country, acting through a public body like the commission, to find out all it can and apply all the remedies it can goes without saying.

But it is well to remember, in connection with the work of the commission as well as of any other body or individual that sets out to investigate, that investigation is no infallible cure that things are in a desperately bad way and that the government is seeking desperately for a remedy.

It is well to remember that, with all the industrial unrest there is to-day in the country the best country in the world for the man who has to make his living—that it still offers him the best opportunity, the fullest rewards, and the clearest title to regard himself as a real factor in his community.

It is well to remember that the average man enjoys more comforts in this country than in any other country, and that the luxury of the European workingman is the plain necessity of the American workingman; that as regards the average well-to-do workingman America is the envy of the great industrial nations.

It is well to remember that there is in the country a willingness on the part of the large business men to seek sincerely the cessation of industrial strife, to co-operate toward removing them that is the best augury for the future.

It is well to remember that there is in the United States a public spirit that is always ready to respond to the best possible toward the improvement of conditions—a public spirit that is not the property of any class, but a class, but a true reflection of the mind of the entire body of American citizenship.

It is well to remember that much of the unrest is not the sign of bad but of good conditions; that it is the usual attitude of men who have enough of the good things of life to crave more; that more is obtainable; that it is thus a simple manifestation of the ambition and aspiration of freemen.

Let us have "light, more light," on the question of industrial unrest and conditions, but let us remember, too, that we must neglect the hopeful light we already have on the subject—the wholesome, optimistic spirit of America. Conditions are better here than in any great nation of the world.—Chicago Herald.

## POLICE POWER IS REFUSED REDUCE RATES 6 PER CENT

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—Police commissioners have refused the request made at the request of Panama-Pacific exposition officials who ask that police powers be conferred on exclusive police officers who will do duty on the exposition grounds. The police commissioners base their action on that section of the city charter which provides that no person shall become a member of the department unless he has passed a rigid test of the city and county for at least five years. The commissioners further say:

"While the applications now before the board are but sixty-five in number, we are informed by the head of the exposition is opened to the public the number of guards will probably be increased to the neighborhood of a thousand. It is proposed that all of these guards shall be appointed special police officers. None of the persons employed by the exposition company as guards upon its grounds can exercise police powers unless appointed by this board as a special police officer, and if so appointed, he becomes a member of the police department, at least to the extent that the department becomes responsible for his conduct and its subject to its control, and this responsibility on the part of the department cannot be evaded or shifted because the powers of appointment are vested by the exposition management."

## FREE BUREAU FOR UNION MEN.

Fresno, Cal., Aug. 1.—The Labor Council of this city has established a free employment bureau for all free union men and women. Organized workers out of employment will be listed at the bureau and positions secured for them.

## AIMED AT STRIKE-BREAKERS.

Washington, August 1.—Representatives Evans, of Nebraska, and Lewis, of Maryland, in the House to prohibit interstate shipment of strikebreakers and arms for use in strikes.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 1.—An average reduction of 6 per cent in premium rates for employers' compensation insurance in the men's compensation fund is announced, and the state industrial commissioners declare that they will make further reductions for less money than any agency, state or commercial, in North America.

Ohio's workmen's compensation protection now covers more than 600,000 employes and 13,800 employers with an aggregate payroll of more than $600,000,000.

The shake-up in premium rates, effective six months, affects 1,100 industries a premium rate averaging 1 per cent less than what they have been paying. Increases granted already have been fully credited as renewals, the commission announces.

Only two industries have their rate raised—stevedoring and steel freight car manufacturing.

Industries engaged in mining, brewing, the wrecking business, masonry, electric lighting and telephone systems, paper manufacturing, theatrical business, and a few other lines keep their old rates.

## MANUAL TRAINING.

Philadelphia, Aug. 1.—The Board of Education, in extending manual and industrial training in the public schools of this city, A sub-committee is investigating the practicability of teaching which every boy in the elementary schools would be required to work for at least a half day each week in the shops.

## CALLIOPE STOPS FACTORY.

Burlington, Iowa, Aug. 1.—Driven to distraction by the tango music of strikebreaking calliopes, one of the largest industries employed by a local pearl button concern has closed down for the week. Management has issued the ultimatum to offensive strike-spilliters and to award it 80% for the days of the strike.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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## AGITATION NECESSARY.

The Clayton Anti-trust bill is still pending in the Senate, and it is necessary to maintain the same persistent agitation that has marked the efforts of trade unionists and sympathizers to secure relief from court interpretations of the Sherman Anti-trust law, which now classifies organizations of workers with trusts.

The battle waged by the American Federation of Labor, the Railroad Brotherhoods, and the Farmers' organizations, has been a spirited one, but the demands for aggressive and continued work is as pressing as ever.

The bill, as passed by the House, has been amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee in several instances. It must yet run the gauntlet of reaction, vigilant and alert, on the floor of the Se ate, where the Committee's amendments will find favor, and where other amendments will undoubtedly be presented—all for the purpose of dilution and delay.

Let no one deceive himself that our opponents have surrendered the field or confessed defeat. The proverbial alertness of big business is manifest, and on every hand is evidences of its determination to weaken any enactments Labor may secure.

No legislation is more important than that contained in the labor sections of the Clayton bill as passed by the House. Around these revolve the ideals and hopes of men who resent the handicap of trust classification in their march to greater development.

The issue is property rights versus human rights, and the insistence of workers that the latter shall prevail has compelled the attention of every right-thinking citizen.

Freedom is not secured by occasional or desultory action, but rather by a concentrated, persistent force, that acts, lives, and breathes the thing desired. It is this spirit that has placed the demands of Labor before the Nation's eye, and it is this spirit we must continually keep alive that final victory may be ours.

Labor has been immeasurably strengthened in its campaign for justice by the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the State of Missouri-Harvester Co. case, wherein the court held that an anti-trust law that did not include labor unions was not unconstitutional. Thus is Labor's contention upheld by the highest court in the land.

The State of Massachusetts in its recently adopted anti-injunction law, declares that the right to perform service is a personal and not a property right. This sustains the position of the American Federation of Labor in its efforts to remedy injunction evils, which are provided for in the Clayton bill.

These decisions are significant. They indicate changed opinions of many citizens, who are accepting new concepts urged by the workers.

It shows that men are rejecting the "ball-and-chain" treatment of labor, be that treatment either physical or judicial.

Justice demands that labor organizations be removed from classification with trusts, whose only purpose is dividends. Labor organizations seek to benefit the many—their gains are diffused through society. Their progress means development of the individual, both morally and physically, and this means a higher citizenship and a better nation.

Only those who would be industrial monarchs deny these claims, and profess fear of "class legislation," which the United States Supreme Court, in the case referred to above, has effectively answered.

The men and women of labor only ask equal opportunity. This is possible through the annulment of court interpretation of the Sherman law, which the Clayton bill passed by the House, assures.

Write your Senators today. Insist that the House Clayton bill be approved by them at this session of Congress.

## PRODUCTION VS. MEN.

An "expert" employed by the Detroit Chamber of Commerce has been looking into the new Ford profit-sharing system, and press reports say the investigator's verdict is that "the plan has not brought an increase of output commensurate with the increase of wages."

It can hardly be expected that any other verdict would be acceptable to manufacturers who have made Detroit, as the "expert" says, "decidedly a city of unorganized labor," and whose workers, especially in the metal, cigar and car industries, labor under conditions that are a reproach.

These manufacturers are interested only in the output of production, and not of citizens. They still cling to the rapidly disappearing dictum that "business is business." They have failed to grasp the modern concept of service. The only manhood they favor is the kind that can produce dividends, direct and instanter.

The theory that workers have ideals is beyond them. Nor can they understand the mind that accepts this theory and aids in its development.

Any concessions granted employes are with the sole thought that greater production will result. Everything is compiled from the dollar standpoint—even their calculating charity is a sequence of a per cent, per cent policy.

These "practical" men, with higher impulses chilled by their quest for gain, scoff at the development of men by maintaining such conditions employes may work out their own destiny.

This is a doctrine fraught with danger—to them. They are well aware that a short work day, good shop conditions, and wages that permit schooling of children, an attractive home and some of life's luxuries, create a mental attitude that quickly rejects the drudgery, the paternalism and the company-conducted institutions of grad-grind employers.

It is the modern story of Middle Age barons who resisted every attempt of their subjects to be free, save with the consent of those above. Advance movements of the "submerged tenth" must not endanger the theory that all blessings shall come through the grace of overlords and kings.

The opposition of industrial captains to trade unionism can be traced to this fact more than any other. Herein lies the reason why some employers will spend thousands of dollars to resist a union's demand that may total only a fraction of the money squandered for strike-breakers and private police.

United, working men have power to stand erect, to make demands. Organized in trade unions, the doctrine of ownership and mastery, hidden neath the cloak of a false freedom and debasing benevolence, is challenged and the industrial captain, aroused at the thought of losing his supremacy and control, disregards costs and results to maintain his point.

Colorado and northern Michigan are recent illustrations of how men will overthrow civil government, defy law and import private armies at an incalculable price to hold what they believe is a prize—the right to dominate over men, and rule their lives—the gilded bauble every oppressor has in mind when opposing those who would be free.

## INDUSTRIAL JUSTICE AND PEACE.

The second annual report of the Georgia State Commissioner of Commerce and Labor recommends the passage of an arbitration act providing for the quick, peaceful settlement of industrial disputes. But peace is not an end that can be realized directly, for it is a condition resulting from agencies for justice and freedom for those concerned to direct and use those agencies. Individual workers must accept or reject whatever terms and conditions employers wish to offer. They have no choice hence they have no freedom. Through organization workers compel employers to consider demands promoting their health, safety, and welfare. Organization establishes industrial freedom. Without industrial freedom, political freedom cannot exist.

Organization enables the workers to live the life of the free. Agencies, responsible to those most vitally concerned, can be established by organization for reaching industrial agreements. Industrial justice is more likely to result when employers meet their own employes to talk over work conditions which they understand better than outside parties and to make agreements in which they are personally interested.

The work to organize must be a real effective right recognized by the governmental representatives of the people. The workers cannot in justice to themselves and their welfare acquiesce in the election of men hostile to their best interests. Sometime ago a former governor of Georgia publicly denounced labor unions and their methods and decried the power of the independent labor vote. Now that same man is seeking nomination for United States Senator from the people of the State.

The workers of Georgia cannot afford to jeopardize their interests by intrusting them to a man who has declared war upon labor organizations. They have a right to sympathetic consideration from those to whom they intrust their interests and welfare.

Nor can Georgia expect to have industrial peace so long as its industries are founded upon child labor. Georgia was one of the last states in the Union to put any restriction upon child labor by legislation. The child labor law, enacted eight years ago, permits children ten years old to work and even that limit applies only to factories. Children of any age may work for any number of hours in stores, at soda fountains, as messengers, and in all occupations which can use child labor.

Child labor stunts growth, both mental and physical, and thereby debases the human race. Child labor results in deterioriation, wages that hug the poverty line, and industrial unrest. Child labor is a social and industrial crime that makes industrial peace impossible. Passage of the child labor law now pending before the Georgia legislature would establish some rights for childhood.

Prohibition of child labor in Georgia would do infinitely more toward creating better relations between employes and employers than any arbitration law that can be devised.

Industrial peace will result naturally if only opportunities are afforded and the workers have freedom. Organized labor is the best guarantee of industrial justice and peace.—American Federationist.

### TO ORGANIZE MACHINISTS.

Worcester, Mass., Aug. 1.—Machinists in this city are preparing to conduct an active campaign to organize. Headquarters in this city for the purpose of directing the movement.

### WANT SHORTER HOURS.

Canton, Ohio, Aug. 1.—Employees employed by the Artificial Ice and Storage company are on strike because this concern insists on a twelve-hour day, while engineers in other plants work but eight hours and receive the same wage.

### A COPPER STRIKE ITEM.

Lansing, Mich., Aug. 1.—It cost the state of Michigan $60,000 for the service of the troops during the recent copper strike in the upper peninsula, according to the annual report of State Treasurer John W. Harvey.

### LOOKING AHEAD.

Laconia, N. H., Aug. 1.—The Carpenters' union is preparing to enforce an eight-hour day next season, and has notified contractors to this effect.

### RELATIONSHIP.

By George Matthew Adams.

A common ownership runs the race. And there is nothing so comforting as to realize that what belongs to each of us quite as much belongs to everybody.

The house you think you own, your lands, your business, in reality, they are only yours on loan. You cannot take them with you when you quit this earth. Somebody will take them up where you left them, and after them, someone else, and so on. Even the applause given you today will be handed to someone else tomorrow.

Even you belong to someone else. Your efforts toward success and happiness cannot turn solely to you. No man lives in isolation. It would finally break the hardest heart.

Realizing makes Humanity possible. No one is so happy as when he is doing something to make someone else happy. If you doubt this statement put it to the test and learn for yourself. If you are greatly gifted, share those gifts and you will presently realize that your gifts have enlarged. For it is only by giving away that a man gets.

The next time you feel like getting the best of the other fellow, bear in mind that that chap is built of kindred clay. That fact will make a difference worth considering.

Think this over, you who are employes. Also, you who are employed. Also, you, whoever you are. Our Faces All look something alike. We have something in common. We laugh and cry and get stirred up over about the same things. There isn't very much difference between any of us after all. So I think that if you can stand me, I can stand you, and be mighty glad that there are a number of men sound and strong, between us—and everybody.

## Don't "Liquidate" Labor.

Mr. C. C. Jackson of this city is quoted as saying that one of the surest ways to better the general situation financially and industrially is to "liquidate" labor, which means in plain English to cut down the wages of the employment.

With considerable respect for Mr. Jackson's eminence as a banker and an economist, we feel impelled to disagree with him as to his remedy. It is clear that the very fact that labor has not been "liquidated" has prevented a far worse depression than we have just been having. It is a matter of industrial truth that whenever labor is drastically "liquidated" the result is the destruction of the market for every kind of everyday commodity.

The demand for our industrial products is still good. We are not down in depression—very slightly, as compared with the state of affairs in other periods. The market is still there, and it is there because labor has not been "liquidated."

It is fortunate, indeed, that labor has not been "liquidated" in the large sense in the United States of late—fortunate for labor and just as fortunate for capital, which at a time to attempt such an ill-advised process.—Boston Post.

## Object of Education.

The Doctrine has been held that the mind of the child is like a sheet of white paper, on which the educator writes for what characters we please. This doctrine assuredly needs qualification and correction. He makes his train a bundle of inherited capacities and tendencies, labeled "from the indefinite past to the indefinite future," and he makes his transit from the one to the other through the education of the present time. The object of that education is, or ought to be, to provide wise exercise for his capacities, wise direction for his tendencies, and through its exercise and false direction to furnish his mind with such knowledge as may contribute to the use fulness, the beauty and the nobleness of his life.—John Tyndall.

## Happiness.

A man who dedicates his life to knowledge becomes habituated to pleasure which cheers with its constancy. And there is one security that he will never love that pleasure which is paid for by anguish. Such pleasures are always all clean, all dignified, and all innocent; and, as far as any human being can attain personal security in this changing scene, he has secured a happiness which no malignity of fortune can ever take away. Such wisdom must cleave to his whole life, ameliorating every good and diminishing every evil of his existence.—Sydney Smith.

## Activity Necessary.

Labor is entitled to a larger share in the fruits of industry; it is justified in demanding higher wages, shorter hours and more favorable working conditions. These worthy objects can be attained only by an expanding organization and a brading every member of the craft that can be ecrolled as a useful and active worker. Continuous activity is necessary in order to secure lasting results.—Cigarmakers' Journal.

## IN THE ZOO

Exiles, they tread their narrow
Wherever they turn the hand of man
Their straining vision mars.
Save only when at night they gaze
Upon the friendly stars.

See! there a golden eagle broods
With sullen, steady eyes
That never more will sweep the
Where blue Sierras rise;
And there, sick for his native
A silken panther lies.

What dreams of silent polar
Disturb the white bear's sleep?
Dreams he some great continent
Eternal ice-floes sweep?
What memories of the jungle's
Does that gaunt tiger keep?

Such wistful eyes the harbeest
Beyond their cramped domain.
They seem to see the rolling
Of wind-swept veldt again.
And fresh the scent must blow in his
As through it he smelled the plain.

Exiles, they tread their narrow
Behind the iron bars.
For them the ruthless hand of
Each independent creature mars.
But, oh, what hungry eyes they
Up to the friendly stars!
—George T. Marsh in Scribner's.

# THE RUSSIAN TRADE UNION DEVELOPMENT

The rapid spread of the trade union movement in the Russian revolutionary period of about eight years ago, its swift decline in the reaction which followed, the trials and tribulations to which the unions have been and are still subjected by the rigors of governmental authority, and, finally, the recent reviving strength of those organizations are clearly set forth in an article by W. Scher in Die Neue Zeit, an organ of Social Democracy in Germany.

In the last two years, the writer observes, there has been a rapid advance in the Russian labor movement. Since the shooting down of the strikers in the Lena gold mine in April, 1912, the battle of Russian labor sweeps past us like a broad, crimson flood. The working class occupies once more a central place in Russian public life.

The greatest authorized organizations of labor are the trade unions. A portrayal of their development in the last two years gives a pretty clear idea of the conditions under which they work and of the results they have achieved.

Unfortunately, no exact statistics concerning the Russian trade unions are obtainable. The only sources are the reports and notices in the political and industrial press of the past two years. The data thus gathered, without presuming to be complete, therefore, furnish a fairly distinct picture of the inner workings of those organizations.

After the Russian trade unions had emerged with fabulous swiftness in the stormy period following the year 1905, at the outset of 1907 their membership reached the imposing figure of more than 245,000, the contrast of the succeeding reaction seemed all the more striking. In the beginning of 1910 there remained only rudimentary remnants of the unions. Then arose, under the cross-fire of the government and the employers, the most difficult task of reconstruction. At the cost of countless sacrifice the laborers succeeded in maintaining the existence of the unions.

But they were not the imposing associations of the revolutionary time. They played an increasingly petty role in the industrial life of the empire. Though not in possession of exact figures, the writer feels he is pretty close to the truth in calculating that the number of members of organized labor attained only 15,000 at the opening of 1912.

It is true, the writer continues, to give an estimate in this article of the strike movement in Russia during the last two years, we first have to say that, according to the statement of the Moscow Manufacturers' Union, about 1,300,000 workmen struck from January 1, 1912, to June 30, 1913—that is, within a year and a half. The far greater share falls to the political strikers, the industrial strikers—with whom we are concerned here—numbered only 200,000. The figures, however, seem much too low an estimate, as the statement takes no account of the smaller trades. It would be no exaggeration to say that in the industrial strikes of 1912-13, 1,000 laborers participated daily throughout the empire.

The number of members—15,000—shows that the unions are not powerful enough to lead the strike movement. Added to this, the first strike wave was followed by a wave of new associations which swept away the strongest and most influential of the unions. In the first months of 1913 alone over 100 unions were born or withdrawn from fifty trade unions.

These persecutions have not diminished in rigor or malignity in the succeeding years. If we were to sum up what the Russian unions have achieved in the last two years, to generalize from individual cases, we would say that all trade-union activity was rendered impossible.

The police exercise a pressure upon property owners and thus make it hard for a union to procure quarters. The most difficult matter is to summon a meeting. According to a custom followed since years, a trade union can only call upon its own members. The police carefully inspect the membership book, and refuse admission to any one who has not paid the last month's dues, arrives a quarter of an hour late, or is not dressed—suspecting him to belong to higher strata of society, giving no credence to the membership book submitted to them! In the meetings it is forbidden to discuss the new insurance laws, to use the word "strike," nay, even to applaud is a punishable offense!

Added to all this chicanery and persecution there are the countless arrests and banishments. Even with incomplete sources the writer compiled a list of about 200 secretaries, cashiers, chairmen and directors of trade unions who were arrested in the period from April, 1912, to December, 1913.

Thus it is on one hand the strike wave that followed the Lena massacre, and, on the other, the increase of prosecutions, that have been primarily decisive in the activity and development of the isolated group of organized trade-unions scattered over Russia in 1912.

Despite all the efforts of labor, the progress of the trade unions was exceedingly slow during 1912. The largest societies went to wreck and ruin that year.

The standstill of the unions was, in a measure, counterbalanced by the rapid growth of organizations that sprang up after every more or less important strike. But they were without official sanction. At any rate, these informal associations succeeded in fulfilling many functions of the unions without regard to making the strike movement homogeneous.

But even the most zealous strike committee cannot take the place of a trade union. And the workingmen are beginning to realize this with ever-increasing clearness, and are founding one trade union after another, developing and strengthening at the same time its very existence. As a consequence of this activity the membership of organized labor had doubled in 1913. But if we sum up the members in the 118 unions their number is only about 40,000 to 45,000.

This, when compared to the total number of workingmen—and, still more, to the number of factories in the country—appears very small. But under Russian conditions it signifies a great success. These unions, however, constitute the flower of the Russian organized proletariat. The commercial employes are also beginning to be strictly organized.

As to the support given by the unions to strikers and the unemployed, the figures show that it is very slight. It is clear that under existing circumstances the unions cannot fall back upon well-filled purses in their struggle against capital. It does not follow, however, that they cannot effectually promote the cause of strikers. As a fact, the leadership of the strikes in the small and medium industries, as well as in the mines, has fallen into the hands of the trade unions. In the great industries, the metal and textile works, their influence was the weaker, owing to the refusal of the capitalists to recognize the unions.

The characterization of the activity of the unions would be incomplete without a mention of the trade-union press. In the last two years trade-union organs have been started, every one of which has been suppressed by the full weight of the regime.—From the Review of Reviews.

# Says Unionists Exhibit Statesmanship

Among the reports which will be made to the labor convention today is one on compulsory arbitration. Opposition to voluntary labor unionism is narrow, rankly prejudiced and wholly selfish should read this report in full, made by a committee of investigation named at the last convention.

Save in one minor detail it is as broad, as liberal, as abreast with the best thought of the time upon this subject as any report upon the subject from any other source. It condemns the contract system as does every disinterested investigator and notes with satisfaction that State is ended the system in Illinois.

It especially commends the use of prison labor on the farms and roads and in the state in clearing state lands. This has especial importance in view of the fact that the next board of control will certainly recommend this to the next legislature and legislation providing for such use of prison labor is confidently expected.

It also specially recognizes, that "the prisoner must be employed; he must be employed productively; he must not be exploited for private profit or in unfair competition with free labor." The interests involved are stated as "the state, the prisoner, the prisoner's family, free labor, the employer of labor, the consuming public."

It finally recommends for convict labor an conserving most of these interests; work on the public domain in road making and clearing; the operation of penal farms, the product to be sold in the open market, but only to state, county or city institutions; such industries as would provide a less number of men than could such institutions, the profits above maintenance to go to the prisoner's families.

Nothing could show better than this report the great advance of organized labor in the past generation, its breaking loose from narrow prejudice and taking the advanced position dictated by public spirit and the broader view.

The one mark spot as we see it, is in the advocacy of restricted sales. We believe prison labor should benefit society as little as possible with free labor, and it actually makes no difference in this, whether sold to state institutions, to institutions or not, the competition is practically the same.

The question of competition is a very minor one as this body of men would be largely of the labor body if free and so would not come in contact with it, if employed at all. We believe the wisest rule as to competition is not to sell on a basis of cost of production, but to meet free labor and free capital at an even sale price, except only when this would be the result of combination.

As a whole, however, this report is most admirable. It shows the right spirit. It holds the broad view and as in the propaganda for the compensation and liability law, shows that, in Minnesota, federated labor does not lack real statesmanship.—Duluth News-Tribune.

# Unions Are Defensive; Trusts Offensive

The great trusts of this country are organized for offensive purposes, while labor unions workers and farmers are compelled to unite for defensive purposes in the thought brought out by Representative Barkley of Kentucky in a speech in Congress on exempting the latter from the Sherman anti-trust law. Mr. Barkley said in part:

"I submit that it was never the intention of Congress to apply the anti-trust laws to such organizations, and if they had intended it, such intention would have been expressed. The object in view in passing the anti-trust laws was to strike at and destroy an evil, to curb monopolies, illegal combinations and conspiracies in restraint of trade. No one will contend, in the light of history, that labor unions or farmers' organizations are an evil; but on the contrary, they have been greatly beneficial to those who labor in factory, field, or shop, and the benefits which have therefrom have been shared by many indirectly who were not members of such organizations.

"The anti-trust law is that of combining or conspiring in restraint of trade. Can it be said that the organization of men who work with their hands, who have organized for the purpose of improving the conditions of labor, or advancing the wages which they receive is a combination or conspiracy in restraint of trade? Manifestly such an interpretation of the law would be an injustice to labor.

"Can it be said that an organization of farmers, who have organized for mutual protection in order to secure an adequate price for the products which they have dug from the soil, is an illegal combination in restraint of trade? Such a construction of the law would be unjust and unwarranted. The trusts, trades and monopolies are offensive organizations. They are organized for profit and exploitation. Laboring men and farmers have been compelled to organize in self-defense in order to protect themselves against the rapacity of those whose acts are denounced by the Sherman anti-trust law.

"So that we may in truth say that the amendment exempting such organizations from the operation of the anti-trust law gives to labor and to agriculture what it asks and is entitled to. It recognizes the difference between the man whose only asset is his power to labor and the man who seeks to use labor and the products of labor for monopolistic purposes. It recognizes truth as it exists in the world—that real wealth in the final analysis is produced by those who toil, and that those who toil are entitled to and earn by the sweat of his brow has a moral and legal right to cooperate, with others of his fellow men in the same condition for the purposes of bettering his condition. This amendment not only of the conditions of labor, but for the advancement of the compensation which he receives therefor."

## Don't Want Charity.

The wage workers, these days, are not inclined to enthuse much over the installation of bath tubs and gymnasiums by welfare workers in their factories. They would rather receive decent pay and reasonable conditions of employment. Experience has taught them that the two seldom are linked by employers. To the worker who is in the habit of thinking there is a spark of real independence the shrewd charity of the employer is repulsive. Only when the workers shall be influenced favorably by such employers.—San Francisco Labor Clarion.

## Porto Ricans Unite.

The strike in Porto Rico in the shops of the American Tobacco Co. is still ended with a compromise. The union and members thereof showed splendid solidarity, great forbearance, and suffered great hardships during the long strike, which started in February. We personally know and the island dotty the strike and have kept in touch with the situation at all times, and have given every moral support and, last but not least, the financial backing of the International union.—Cigarmakers' Journal.